



RAKU – RANDY SNYDER

Randy Snyder got hooked on throwing pots while in high school and kept throwing them through his college years and part-time afterward, while trying various career avenues. He finally decided that the thing he loved to do was pottery and has been a full time artist and teacher for the last 30 years. Raku Pottery is his main focus. Raku is an old Japanese form of firing pottery that give the glazes a rich metallic effects. It also turns the clay black where no glaze is applied. Randy individually hand builds or use the potter's wheel to make each piece. Because of the Raku firing and the construction techniques he uses white stoneware clay, each piece is unique.

Randy started showing his work at Art and Wine Festivals as early as 1992, throughout the Bay Area and Coastal California. Randy has been recognized and received awards in several Counties as well as at the California State Fair.

Raku translates to mean enjoyment, contentment, pleasure and happiness according to Randy and that is what you will feel when you first view his elegant vases and containers with their sophisticated shapes and their matte to metallic finishes.

Randy has been involved with Sebastopol Center of the Arts as well as Rohnert Park Community Center, teaching pottery classes, running open studios and is Ceramic Studio manager and teaches at Rohnert Park Community Center Pottery Studio. At the Rohnert Park studio I run the daily operation of the studio loading kilns, making glazes, equipment upkeep, and other various duties. I also teach and run open studio times where people can come in and work independently. The focus of my classes are on hand building with clay and the potter's wheel. I show and sell my own pottery at Art Shows, galleries and Wineries.

Work is on permanent display at the Artisans' Co-op in Bodega, CA and Upstairs Gallery in Healdsburg.